

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02

CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 L-02

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-06 NIC-01 A-01 SCCT-01

SY-05 OPR-02 SCS-03 SAM-01 /098 W
----- 013042

P R 121655Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2046

INFO AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LISBON 1368

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, PO

SUBJ: U.S. BUSINESS SITUATION IN PORTUGAL

1. SURVEY OF SEVERAL LARGE U.S. MANUFACTURING PLANTS IN DIFFERENT PARTS OF LISBON/SETUBAL AREA INDICATES NORMAL WORKING CONDITIONS TODAY (MARCH 12) WITH ONLY SLIGHTLY HIGHER THAN NORMAL ABSENTEEISM. PRESS REPORTS ITT OLIVA PLANT NEAR OPORTO OCCUPIED BY WORKERS. EMBASSY CHECKING.

2. YESTERDAY MOST PLANTS SHUT DOWN FOR AFTERNOON. ONLY REPORTED DIFFICULTY WAS AT GENERAL MOTORS WHERE WORKERS DEMANDED USE OF MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT TO BUILD HIGHWAY BARRICADE. DEMAND REFUSED AND WORKERS DROPPED IT.

3. PRELIMINARY U.S. BUSINESSMEN'S REACTION CENTERS ON OTELO STATEMENT ABOUT AMBASSADOR. SEVERAL DEMAND STRONG PROTEST ON PART OF USG. AS FAR AS WE KNOW ONLY ONE FIRM IS CONSIDERING EVACUATING U.S. PERSONNEL.

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4. REACTION OF TWO VISITING BANKERS FROM LARGE PHILADELPHIA
BANK VERY NEGATIVE. THEY REPORT THEY WILL RECOMMEND AGAINST
EXPOSURE IN PORTUGUESE MARKET; BEFORE YESTERDAY THEY WERE OPEN-
MINDED.

5. COMMENT: THIS APPARENT CALM IS PROBABLY ONLY TEMPORARY.
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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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05 JUL 2006

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